

# TECHNICAL INFORMATION SHEET

## Hot weather working - general guidance

### Applying render products in hot weather

With any product, always work on cool walls for the application in the summer or on hot days. Avoid applying onto hot substrates, walls that are in direct sunlight or have been heated up by the sun.

It is recommended to work early in the day during the cooler temperatures and follow the shaded walls around the building.

It is also recommended to work out of direct sunlight and not to apply to elevations when there are strong drying winds. It is imperative to store the products in a cool, or even air-conditioned area, and when mixing is required, use cool or iced water. Let hot water run out of hoses before using water from them. (Hot water cures the render faster).

Aesthetic issues can occur in finishes of all types due to different rates of drying occurring between areas in shade versus those in the sun. For example, scaffolding will create shadow lines where the finish dries more slowly than adjacent areas. To help prevent this from happening, the exterior should be sheeted to limit the uneven sun exposure and different drying rates which can result in different colours.

Finally, always consider that working times of products decreases in hot weather and enough manpower should be utilized to prevent 'cold' joints in the finish. Hot temperatures also cause the water from the render to evaporate more rapidly. This is not beneficial to the product as this causes the render to cure too quickly and will affect the products final performance.

### Render base coats\* – e.g. Parmurex, Monogris E

Sika render base coats e.g. **Parmurex, Monogris E** etc., as above but not Parextherm/Parexdirect base coats e.g. **Maite**, requires moist curing. Without moist curing, water in the base coat mix is lost to evaporation into the air and to absorption into concrete and masonry substrates. Dampening masonry substrates first reduces absorption into them and misting the set but uncured base coat with a light mist of water replaces water in the mixed product lost to evaporation and will ensure a good cure is achieved. A render where the moisture has evaporated too quickly can cause a render to appear dusty on the surface when cured or a weak bond can form between the cementitious coats of materials. **Micro Gobetis 3000** bonding agent will slow the absorption of the mix water into the substrate and support better hydration of the base coat or alternatively adding **751 Lankolatex** into the water content will also assist with bonding.

**Please note:** Parextherm/Parexdirect base coats e.g. **Maite, Easycoat**, should not be moist cured. Moist curing interferes with the film formation of the polymer in them. For additional information please refer to Parextherm/Parexdirect base coats below.

### Cement Finishes\* – e.g. Monorex GM & GF, Blanc du Littoral, Monoblanco, EHI GM & GF

Moisture in cement render finishes is necessary for proper curing of the cement in them. The render product should be applied either directly to a concrete or masonry substrate or to a moistened render base coat.

Moist curing the cement finish is allowed and may also help retain the moisture; if the cement finish is moist cured, it should be completed after application and when dry to the touch. Moist curing helps to develop the hardness of the finish and prevents uneven or excessive

evaporation of moisture from finish during hot, dry or windy weather. Moist curing should be completed several times per day with a gentle, fine spray, evenly applied over the wall for a couple of days, or longer if it is very windy/dry/hot or a combination of these, keeping in mind that excessive watering can result in increased colour differences.

### **Parextherm/Parexdirect base coats\***

During hot weather, Parextherm/Parexdirect adhesive and base coats e.g. **Maite**, **Easycoat**, may set too fast or skin over resulting in poor adhesion. On Parextherm applications, if the adhesive is allowed to skin over once applied on the insulation it must not be stuck to the surface or re-agitated. The adhesive **MUST** be scraped off and fresh material re-applied.

**Please note:** dampening the surface is not permitted because it adversely affects the polymer in the adhesive.

### **Acrylic Finishes\* – e.g. DPR & Revlane+ finishes, DPR Coating & Revlane+ Crylane**

Acrylic finishes such as the **DPR & Revlane+** finishes may be assisted from drying too fast by using a Parex acrylic primer e.g. **DPR or Revlane+** primers. The primer will slow down and even out the suction created by the base coat product, giving a more uniform application, and making the floating easier and assist in the open working time of the acrylic finishes. When applying acrylic finishes to a hot surface or on a hot day, the finish must be floated before it skins over. Floating too dry a finish will burn the surface and create an irregular texture and colour.

Adding water to an acrylic ready mixed product is not recommended as this will dilute the colour (particularly noticeable with dark colours). However, if water is added to the mix then the same % volume of water **MUST** be added to every container being used for the façade being covered, otherwise shade variations will be encountered. Do not add more than 10% of water to the ready mixed product.

\*subject to the product used, always refer to the product data sheet for full guidance on temperature and application guidance.

### **Protection**

Protection from rapid drying can be created with polythene sheeting (this can also be part of the scaffolding system) and should be arranged to hang clear of the wall in such a way that it does not form a tunnel through which the wind could increase the evaporation of water from the render.

The polythene sheeting must not be in contact with the products as this could produce a patchy appearance.

### **Use good judgement**

Use local weather forecasts for advance knowledge and guidance on future weather and temperature conditions. If in doubt, **do not use** and seek further advice from Sika.

For additional information please refer to the Technical Information Sheets:

- Mineral Render Advice: Substrate preparation, water quantities and finishes
- What causes holes in my mineral render finish?

For project specific specifications and Technical Information Sheets, please visit our website [gbr.sika.com](http://gbr.sika.com).